



# Nature Programs

## Stargazing in the Park

8yrs – Adult

Join astronomer Myron Wasiuta for spectacular stargazing! Discover the wonders of the universe through a computer-controlled Celestron 14-inch telescope and other state-of-the-art equipment. Dress for the weather and bring a lawn chair (optional). Pre-registration required (kids must attend with paying adult). Location: Motts Run Reservoir.

**Saturday, 7:00pm-8:30pm**

**December 13**

**\$4/\$4 (residents/non-residents)**

## Owl Prowl (Full Moon)

6yrs – Adult

We'll start with hot cocoa, then head out to enjoy the evening magic of the winter woods under the nearly-full moon. Whoohoo knows what we'll discover! Dress warmly, wear shoes with good traction and bring a flashlight. Pre-registration required (kids must attend with paying adult). Location: Motts Run Nature Center.

**Friday, 7:00pm-8:15pm**

**January 2**

**\$5/\$5 (residents/non-residents)**

## Winter in the Woods

4yrs – 7yrs

Come visit the nature center, touch real furs, hear a story and have a hot cocoa with your favorite adult. Find out how animals stay warm in winter. We'll end with a short hike so dress for the weather. Pre-registration required (kids must attend with non-paying adult). Location: Motts Run Nature Center.

**Friday, 9:00am-10:00am**

**January 9**

**\$6/\$6 (residents/non-residents)**

## Winter Tree Trek

8yrs – Adult

Ever wonder how to identify trees in the dead of winter? Take a hike and learn tips to telling a hickory from an oak, a beech from a maple, and more! We'll look at buds, bark and discover a little tree lore too. Pre-registration required (kids must attend with paying adult). Location: Motts Run Nature Center.

**Sunday, 3:00-4:15pm**

**January 11**

**\$6/\$6 (residents/non-residents)**

## Super Snakes

5yrs – 10yrs

Snakes have quite a rep! Find out more about these fascinating creatures, see snake eggs, snake skins, a snake skeleton, touch a live snake and more! Pre-registration required (under ten must attend with non-paying adult). Location: Motts Run Nature Center.

**Saturday, 10:00am-11:00am**

**January 17**

**\$6/\$6 (residents/non-residents)**

## Owl Pellet Pickin's

7yrs – 12yrs

Dig this kids, you'll get the chance to sort the bones you find in an owl pellet... will you discover a mouse, a shrew, a songbird? You'll have a hoot being nature detectives! Glue what you find into a framed box. Pre-registration required (kids under ten must attend with non-paying adult). Location: Motts Run Nature Center.

**Saturday, 10:00am-11:30am**

**January 31**

**\$12/\$12 (residents/non-residents)**



## Homeschool Nature Club

6yrs – 11yrs

Calling all homeschoolers 1-6th grades to take a break from the books and join a nature club. We'll meet one Monday a month from February to May (check the dates). Wear appropriate outdoor clothing (No flip flops) and bring water. NO non-registered siblings please. Pre-registration required for entire series (under ten must attend with non-paying adult). Location: Motts Run Reservoir.

**Mondays, 1:00pm – 2:30pm**

**February 9 Beginning Birding**

**March 9 The Scoop on Poop (scat and sign)**

**April 13 Bug Bonanza**

**May 4 Canoeing**

**\$35/\$35 (residents/non-residents)**



## Bird Feeder Fun!

4yrs – 5yrs

Fly on down for fun with backyard birds! We'll create a bird feeder to take home, and learn about our feathered friends who might visit. Snack and story included. Be sure to bring a non-paying grown-up with you! Pre-registration required. Location: Motts Run Nature Center.

**Thursday, 10:00am-11:00am**

**February 12**

**\$8/\$8 (residents/non-residents)**

**Volunteer with us!**  
**See Page 28.**

## Beginning Birding

8yrs – Adult

Ever wished you could ID a few more common birds? Come get tips on how to begin “birding” as we discuss the basics, talk about useful field guides, apps, websites, and have a hot cocoa. The park will remain open for an extra hour for those wanting to try out new skills. Bring binoculars if you have them. Pre-registration required (kids must attend with paying adult). Location: Motts Run Nature Center.

**Saturday, 10:00am-11:00am**

**February 14**

**\$8/\$8 (residents/non-residents)**

## The Scoop on Poop

8yrs – 12yrs

It starts with an S and ends with a T, it comes out of you and comes out of me, I know what you’re thinking, it could be called that, but be scientific and call it scat! We’ll hike the woods becoming wildlife detectives to look for animal scat, and return to the nature center to make a model to take home. Pre-registration required (under ten must attend with non-paying adult). Location: Motts Run Nature Center.

**Thursday, 4:45pm-6:00pm**

**February 26**

**\$8/\$8 (residents/non-residents)**

## Wilderness First Aid

14yrs – Adult

Wilderness environments create special emergency situations. This 16-hour intense course is designed for scouts/BSA leaders or anyone pursuing outdoor adventures. Does not include CPR. Real-life scenarios included in this hands-on training by an ASHI (American Safety and Health Institute) instructor. Book and certificate included. Bring a bag lunch. Pre-registration required. Location: Motts Run Nature Center.

**Saturday, March 7**

**Sunday, March 8**

**8:00am-4:00pm**

**\$160/\$160 (residents/non-residents)**

## Eco-Explorer

6yrs – 12yrs

Go really green on St Patrick’s Day by going out in the woods for a scavenger hunt. We’ll return to the Nature Center to discuss animal habitats, make a food chain, and end by making a homemade bird feeder for you to take home. Dress for the weather and wear sturdy shoes. Pre-registration required (under ten must attend with non-paying adult). Location: Motts Run Nature Center.

**Tuesday, 4:30pm-6:00pm**

**March 17**

**\$8/\$8 (residents/non-residents)**

## Awesome Orienteering

9yrs – Adult

Learn to use a map and compass then test your skills on our woodland orienteering course. Wear sturdy footwear and long pants. Compasses and water provided. Pre-registration required (ten and under must attend with paying adult). Location: Motts Run Nature Center.

**Tuesday, 4:30-6:00pm**

**March 18**

**\$6/\$6 (residents/non-residents)**



## The Bare Essentials of Survival Workshop

11 – Adult

Learn the naked truth of survival...what to do in the worst wilderness scenario when you are wet, cold, and lost. Led by survival expert, Dustin Chappell, practice hands-on skills you’ll want to know (including how to use a bow-drill, use of fire igniters and flame extenders). Dress for the weather and bring a sack lunch. Pre-registration required (all ages pay). Location: Motts Run Nature Center.

**Saturday, 9:00am-1:30pm**

**March 28**

**\$35/\$45 (residents/non-residents)**

## Firebuilding

8yrs – 14yrs

Come learn how to build a fire using a variety of methods, including at least one without matches. We’ll make some fire starters out of re-cycled materials and eat a treat cooked over our fire. Pre-registration required (under ten must attend with non-paying adult). Location: Motts Run Reservoir.

**Tuesday, 4:30pm-6:00pm**

**March 31**

**\$8/\$8 (residents/non-residents)**



**Nature Programs**

**9**

Register on page 39 (540) 372-1086 Nature Programs ext. 213



# Nature Programs

## Frog Walk for Tadpoles

2yrs – 4yrs

Leap on over to Motts Run Reservoir with your little tadpoles for a hoppin' good time looking for frogs. Be prepared to get your feet muddy (no kidding). Pre-registration required (kids must attend with non-paying adult). Location: Motts Run Reservoir.

**Thursday, 9:00am-9:45am**

**April 2**

**\$5/\$5 (residents/non-residents)**

## Fun With Frogs

4yrs – 7yrs

Hop on over to Motts Run Reservoir to learn all about frogs and toads. We'll do a craft, have a froggie snack, sing a frog chorus and touch a real amphibian. Pre-registration required (kids must attend with non-paying adult). Location: Motts Run Reservoir.

**Friday, 10:00am-11:00am**

**April 24**

**\$6/\$6 (residents/non-residents)**

## Jr. Naturalist: Herps (Reptiles and Amphibians)

10yrs – 16yrs

From frogs and toads to snakes, salamanders and a turtle or two, we'll learn about the life of our local herps. Lots of hands-on fun in the woods and along the lakeshore. Take three courses in the Jr. Naturalist series and get your name on a plaque in the nature center! All equipment provided. Pre-registration required. Location: Motts Run Nature Center.

**Tuesdays, 4:30pm-6:00pm**

**April 21, 28, May 5, 12**

**\$55/\$65 (residents/non-residents)**

## Nature Play for Preschoolers

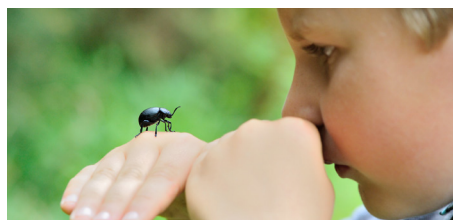
4yrs – 5yrs

Kids, grab your favorite grown-up and come learn about birds, frogs, toads and more! We'll gather for three mornings to enjoy a snack, story and nature craft. Secure your spot soon! Pre-registration required (kids must attend with non-paying adult). Location: Motts Run Nature Center.

**Thursdays, 10:00am-11:15am**

**April 28, May 5, 12**

**\$30/\$40 (residents/non-residents)**



## Blowing Off Steam

4yrs – 7yrs

Attention all budding vulcanologists, come have a "blast" doing some hands-on activities to learn all about volcanoes. Just in time for the 35th anniversary of Mt. St. Helens' eruption, we'll make volcanoes to keep, explode volcanoes and have a volcano snack. Pre-registration required (kids must attend with non-paying adult). Location: Alum Spring Park Pavilion.

**Tuesday, 4:30pm-5:30pm**

**May 5**

**\$6/\$6 (residents/non-residents)**

## Dipnetting for Dragonflies

5yrs – Adult

Search the greening lakeshore for aquatic insects, tadpoles, crayfish, cricket frogs, and more! There's a world of wonder just beneath the water's surface. Wear mud shoes. Pre-registration required (kids must attend with paying adult). Location: Motts Run Nature Center.

**Saturday, 10:00am-11:00am**

**May 16**

**\$5/\$5 (residents/non-residents)**



## Bug Bonanza

5yrs – 10yrs

Buzz over to Motts Run to turn over a rotting log to see what critters might be there. Hold Amber our giant hissing cockroach. See a variety of preserved specimens as well. Each participant will go home with their very own bug box. Pre-registration required (kids must attend with non-paying adult). Location: Motts Run Reservoir.

**Wednesday, 5:00pm-6:00pm**

**May 20**

**\$8/\$8 (residents/non-residents)**

## Frog Walk

5yrs – Adult

Bullfrogs "bellowing," pickerel frogs "snoring," cricket frogs "clicking," and more, on this memorable night hike! We'll hunt down, catch, and release toads and frogs (nets provided). Bring a flashlight and wear mud shoes or boots. Pre-registration required (kids must attend with paying adult). Location: Motts Run Nature Center.

**Friday, 8:30pm-9:30pm**

**May 29**

**\$5/\$5 (residents/non-residents)**



**Mark your calendar for  
our Earth Day Festival!  
See p. 28.**